



La Follette Coach Pete Olson, background, introduces his players to the crowd gathered in the Lancers' gym to honor the state basketball champions Monday. The juniors, in white tuxedos from

left to right, include Jim Severson, Joe Strangstallen, Brad Thering and Steve Amundson. Seniors honored, from left to right, are Karl Green, Steve Lindauer, Brian Hozzman, Bob DiLoreto, Tim

Jordan, Tom Luksich and Rick Olson. Senior captain Scott Hogan was not in the lineup when the photo was taken.

— State Journal photos by Joseph W. Jackson III

La Follette takes classy bow

MAR 23 1982

By Don Lindstrom
State Journal sports reporter

State Basketball Tournament

Madison La Follette Coach Pete Olson and his Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association Class A state championship basketball team were the toast of the school and the city at the Lancers' special awards assembly in the gymnasium Monday afternoon.

La Follette's large student body, faculty, parents and several state and city dignitaries — including Lt. Gov. Russell Olson and Madison Mayor Joel Skornicka — came to honor Olson and his 1982 state champions.

La Follette earned its place in the limelight by toppling previously undefeated Stevens Point, 62-61, Saturday night to add the final touches to a 20-5 season record.

Olson, assistant coach Irv Kennedy and the players, who, as a big banner hanging from the Lancer

gym, proclaimed: "You're No. 1 in the hearts of your fans," were attired in full dress tuxedos, with tails, to add prestige to the occasion.

"Our basic philosophy in basketball is to set a high goal, work hard, go out and build confidence in what you can do," said Olson, the veteran Lancer coach. "This team did that, and it's with special pride that we can reward a group like this. We would like to think that we can carry this same philosophy over to every individual student in our school."

Olson introduced his state champions, juniors Jon Strangstallen, Jim Severson, Brad Thering and Steve Amundson, and seniors Karl Green, Steve Lindauer, Brian Hinzman, Bob DiLoreto, Tim Jordan, Tom Luksich, Rick Olson and the team's captain, Scott Hogan.

"Saturday night was a great occasion," added Coach Olson. "Our team was just one part of it. My purpose here is to thank everyone

— pep band, cheerleaders, pep club, pompon squad, our athletic director, our faculty, coaches Kennedy and Chuck Waity, and particularly the parents. They are special people and deserve recognition."

Olson had special words about two of his stars — Rick Olson and Hogan.

"Rick has established many records for us, as we've asked him to do more than we've asked any other player we've ever had," the coach said. "It's no accident that he's very deserving of this honor. He's a great example for young people, and we all wish him the best."

"Scott is a little special to me, and he is a very unselfish player, always taking the most difficult defensive assignment. What he stands for is the reason I appointed him captain."

Before the presentation of the championship trophy from Hogan to La Follette Principal Robert Reif, several dignitaries addressed

the large crowd.

Lt. Gov. Olson, representing Gov. Lee Dreyfus, who was out of the city and unable to attend, opened with a great quip: "I thought it was a good time for an Olson to come to La Follette."

He added, "On behalf of the governor and the State of Wisconsin, I want to congratulate a great basketball team and a great coach, Pete Olson. We're extremely proud of your school, and so proud that you are now No. 1 in the whole state."

Skornicka announced that the Lancers would be officially recognized as state champions at the Madison City Council meeting Tuesday and added, "All of Madison is very proud, and it was a job well done."

Also extending congratulations were Madison Superintendent of Schools Donald Hafeman, Athletic Director Paul Swanson, La Follette Booster Club President John Haddsell and Reif.



Principal Bob Reif rejoices.